

Message From The President

Throughout the 2022-2023 academic year, Northern Virginia Community College engaged in a comprehensive process to review its mission, values and strategic direction. As the largest provider of talent in the Greater D.C. area and the largest undergraduate higher education institution in the Commonwealth, NOVA is uniquely positioned to impact our region and its residents.

Our college is guided by a mission that captures the “why” that drives the work of our outstanding faculty and staff: **Northern Virginia Community College provides equitable access to affordable and exceptional higher education and workforce programs, transforming the lives of our students and advancing opportunity in our community.**

Together, our students, faculty and staff have embraced values that form the foundation of our commitment to each other: **Care, Excellence, Inclusion, Integrity and Respect.**

Because we are the community’s college, as we worked to define our strategic direction, we sought the input of internal and external stakeholders, reviewed the results of our last strategic plan and dove into our own data to learn more about how we were serving our students and our region.

Every individual involved in the strategic planning process, inside and outside of our college, expressed enormous pride in NOVA and all that we accomplish for and with our students and community. I know every day you hear—loud and clear—the depth and authenticity of this recognition and emotion. Our new strategic plan, **Inspiring Excellence: A Bold Blueprint for Student Success**, honors the remarkable achievements of NOVA’s storied past while calling on all of us, together, to push forward to greater heights in connecting our students to brighter futures.

The basic purpose of any strategic plan is to set an organization’s direction, prioritize initiatives and efforts and guide allocation of resources. Because of the dramatic changes in the higher education and workforce landscape, NOVA also wanted a plan that would help us effectively respond to opportunities and challenges—current

and emerging. We knew our plan had to reflect and support the rich diversity of our students and community. In addition, we needed a plan that captured the power of both university transfer and career pathways in improving the economic and social mobility of our graduates and their families. And, most importantly, our strategic plan had to be grounded in goals worth working for, goals directly related to the reason we are all here: our students.

Our strategic priorities speak to every aspect of NOVA’s mission and impact:

- ACCESS: Equitable access to high-demand, high-wage programs
- RETENTION: Timely college-level course success
- COMPLETION: Timely degree completion for full- and part-time students
- TRANSFER: Transfer success for associate degree recipients
- EMPLOYMENT: Prepare students for high-demand, high-wage careers.

Inspiring Excellence: A Bold Blueprint for Student Success centers the dreams, talent and dedication of our amazing students. NOVA’s strategic plan delivers on the needs, objectives and expectations of families, employers, our region and the Commonwealth. And, it builds on the expertise, contributions and commitment of our extraordinary faculty and staff. As its name underscores, Inspiring Excellence provides our college with a blueprint for achieving our mission of transforming the lives of our students and advancing opportunity in our community, showing just why we are boldly—and proudly—NOVA.

Sincerely,



Anne M. Kress, PhD
President

STRATEGIC PLAN 2023-2026



*Inspiring Excellence:
A Bold Blueprint for Student Success*

NOVA's Goals: 2026



1. ACCESS

By 2026...

24,356 students enrolled in the highest-earning pathways, both for workforce and transfer



2. RETENTION

By 2026...

24% of first-time-in college, program-placed students completing college-level English and math with a grade of C or better within their first year



3. COMPLETION

By 2026...

40% of full-time students completing a degree or certificate in 3 years

22% of part-time students completing a degree or certificate in 6 years



4. TRANSFER

By 2026...

2,023 students successfully transferring to a university after earning their associates degree



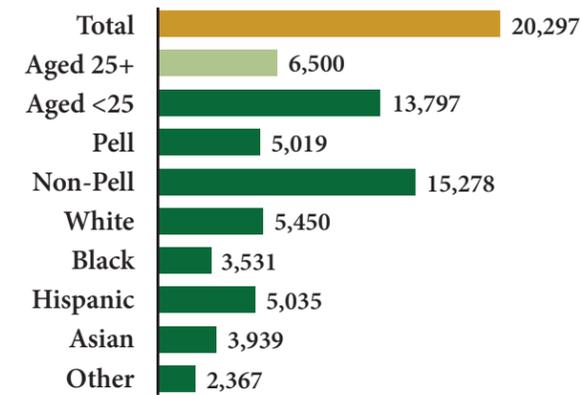
5. EMPLOYMENT

By 2026...

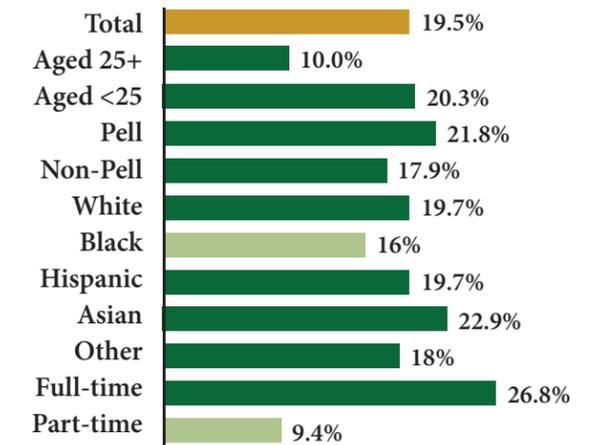
3,900 credentials and degrees awarded in the highest earning pathways

Baseline: Academic Year 2021-2022

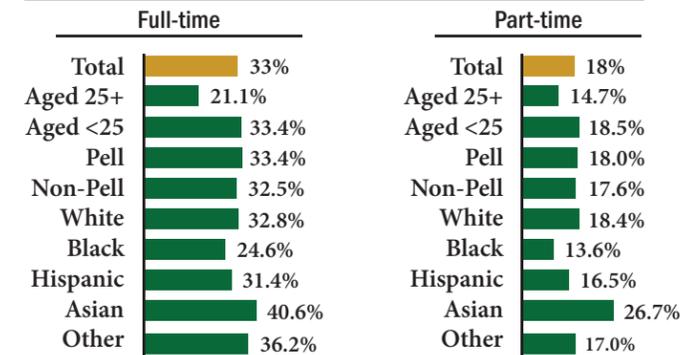
ACCESS:



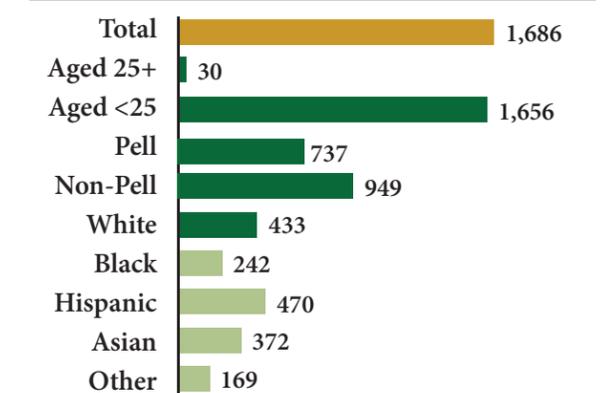
RETENTION:



COMPLETION:



TRANSFER:



EMPLOYMENT:

